ART AND ARTISANSHIP

**Elaborate Weaving-** The earliest forms of textiles can be dated to around 6000 BCE. People in this time period used animal and plant fibers to form these textiles. They developed forms of weaving fabrics and spinning threat. These jobs were carried out by the women at home while also doing other domestic activities such as taking care of the children.



Linen was commonly used in Egypt around 5000 BCE.

"UNIT I: FOUNDATIONS (8000 BCE TO 600 CE)." . N.p.. Web. 14 Oct 2013. <http://www.historyhaven.com/APWH/unit1/UNIT I NOTES.htm>.

SYSTEMS OF RECORD KEEPING

**Cuneiform-** This was the first fully developed writing system. It originated in Mesopotamia around 3500 BCE. This form of writing had wedged characters and originally had about 2000 characters, but was later reduced to about 300. Cuneiform was first developed to record important information such as bushels of barley, heads of cattle, and jars of oil. The last known document recorded in this writing system was written in the first century BCE.



This clay tablet tallying the number of someone’s sheep and goat was found in Tello.

German, Senta. "Cuneiform and the Invention of Writing." *smart history*. Khan Academy. Web. 14 Oct 2013.

**Hieroglyphs-** Originated in Egypt around 3000 BCE. This was a complex pictorial language. It was only understood by high class people including priests. This written language included thousands of characters. The last known use of this language was around 500 AD.



These Hieroglyphics were found carved on a wall.

"History of Hieroglyphics ." . Attic Designs. Web. 14 Oct 2013. <http://www.ancient-egypt-online.com/history-of-hieroglyphics.html>.

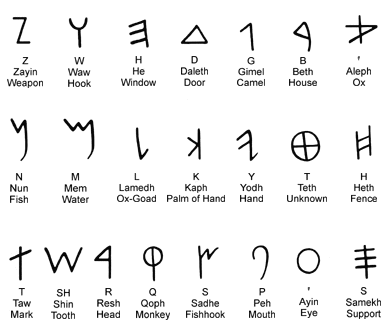
**Pictographs-** Records consisting in pictorial symbols. Both Sumerians and Egyptians began recording information with pictographic symbols, but later evolved into more complex forms of writing such as cuneiform and hieroglyphics. This form of recording information began in 3300 BCE in Mesopotamia and in 3200 BCE in Egypt.



Ancient Pictograph found on a cave wall, dated to around 3000 BCE.

Fajardo-Acosta, Fidel. "Origins of Writing: From Pictographs to Alphabets ." *World Literature Website*. N.p., 12 Jan 2010. Web. 14 Oct 2013. <http://fajardo-acosta.com/worldlit/language/origins-writing.htm >.

**Alphabets-** The first alphabet was created by the Phoenicians around 2000 BCE. They created a 22 character system. Each character symbolized a single syllable, rather than a word or group of words. This alphabet later became the basis for the Greek and Roman alphabets. The Greeks alphabet was the first to include vowels. They gave the name “alphabet” for this writing system using the first 2 symbols: Alpha and Beta. The Etruscan people of Italy adopted the alphabet from the Greek around the 7th century BCE and later passed it on to the Romans, who later developed the Latin alphabet.



Phoenician alphabet

"Origins of Alphabets." *slide share*. Slide Share Inc.. Web. 14 Oct 2013. <http://www.slideshare.net/MikaelaD/origins-of-alphabets>.